

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 01049 110833Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-04
NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 /044 W
-----110841Z 121244 /21
R 110646Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3291

S E C R E T BEIRUT 1049

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, LE
SUBJECT: SOUTH LEBANON

REF: STATE 050980

1. ASSUME DEPARTMENT IS REFERRING TO REPORT
WAKEFIELD HAS FROM ASSOCIATE OF IMAM MUSA SADR THAT
REASON CHRISTIAN FORCES UNABLE TO ENTER BINT JUBAYL
LAST WEEK WAS THAT SADR SUPPORTERS HAVE FORMED THEIR
OWN DEFENSE FORCE (AL-AMAL--THE HOPE) WHICH TAKING
PLAGUE ON BOTH YOUR HOUSES ATTITUDE AND OPPOSED
CHRISTIAN ENTRY. SAME FORCES ALLEGEDLY OPPOSED
PALESTINIAN ATTEMPTS TO ENTER SAME TOWN.

2. WE HAVE CHECKED WITH VARIOUS PEOPLE HAVING
CONNECTIONS WITH AREA AND THEY HAVE BEEN UNANIMOUS
IN DISCOUNTING ROLE OF SADR SUPPORTERS. DATT IS
INFORMED THAT SADR HAS MAXIMUM OF 50 ARMED
MILITIA FOLLOWING HIS ORDERS. IRANIAN AMBASSADOR,
WHO OLD-TIMER HERE, SAYS THESE FORCES IN FACT
COOPERATING WITH PALESTINIANS, AND THAT IT IS NON-
SADR CONNECTED MILITIA IN SEVERAL TOWNS AROUND
BINT JUBAYL THAT HAVE ATTEMPTED WITH SOME SUCCESS
TO KEEP ALL COMBATANTS OUT OF THEIR TERRITORY.
IRANIAN SAYS ONLY SIZEABLE PRIVATE ARMY IS THAT OF
SECRET

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PAGE 02 BEIRUT 01049 110833Z

KAZIM KHALIL, ARCH-CONSERVATIVE OLD POL FROM TYRE,
WHO HAS 200 MEN WHO WERE TRAINED IN ISRAEL AND ARE
NOW FIGHTING ALONGSIDE LEBANESE FORCES. KAMEL AL-
ASSAD'S FOLLOWERS ALSO UNDERSTOOD TO BE SUPPORTING
LEBANESE FORCES.

3. SHIA SUFFERING FROM LACK OF EFFECTIVE, UNIFIED

LEADERSHIP AND WHILE THEY GENERALLY OPPOSED TO
PALESTINIANS PRESENCE, THEY HAVE FOUND NO COHESIVE
GROUP FOR OR AGAINST ANYONE.

4. IT NOT SURPRISING THAT WAKEFIELD'S REPORTING IS
CARBON COPY OF OURS. WE HAVE DONE GOOD DEAL OF
EXCHANGING OF INFORMATION. DEPARTMENT SHOULD
THEREFORE BEWARE OF FALSE CONFIRMATION. WAKEFIELD
PROBABLY HEARD IT FROM US.
PARKER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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